Appin. Serial No. 10/791,414

Amendment Dated December 8, 2008

Reply to Office Action Mailed August 6, 2008

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## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1 1. 9. (Cancelled)
- 1 10. (Currently Amended) A method for maintaining secure network connections, the method comprising:
- duplicating, at a third network element, information a security association associated with
- 4 a secure network connection between a first network element and a second network element,
- 5 wherein a lookup of the security association associated with the secure network
- 6 connection is not dependent on any destination address; and
- 7 in response to detecting failure of the second network element, replacing the second
- 8 network element with the third network element in the secure network connection with the first
- 9 network element, wherein the secure network connection between the first network element and
- 10 the third network element is based on the duplicated security association.
- 1 11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10 further comprising sending at
- 2 least one secure message from the third network element to the first network element to notify
- 3 the first network element that the secure network connection will be taken over by the third
- 4 network element.
- 1 12. (Original) A method for maintaining secure network connections, the method
- 2 comprising:
- 3 configuring a plurality of security gateways such that a lookup of security associations is
- 4 not dependent on any destination address; and
- 5 sharing at least one security association among the plurality of security gateways.
- 1 13. (Cancelled)
- 1 14. (Previously Presented) The first security server according to claim 22, wherein a lookup
- 2 of security associations is not dependent on any destination address.

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15. – 16. (Cancelled)

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- 1 17. (Previously Presented) The first security server according to claim 22, wherein
- 2 communications between the mobile client and the first security server are based on a security
- 3 architecture for the internet protocol (IPsec).
- 1 18:-19. (Cancelled)
- 1 20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 10, further comprising:
- 2 during life of the secure network connection between the first and second network
- 3 elements, the third network element receiving information relating to one or more the security
- 4 associations association of the secure network connection from the second network element.
- 1 21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the first network element is a
- 2 mobile client, and the second and third network elements are security servers.
- 1 22. (Previously Presented) A first security server comprising:
- 2 a transceiver to receive information relating to at least one security association of a secure
- 3 network connection between a mobile client and a second security server; and
- 4 a processor module to:
- 5 monitor operation of the second security server;
- 6 in response to detecting failure of the second security server, send a message to
- 7 the mobile client that the first security server is taking over the secure network connection; and
- 8 communicate with the mobile client using the at least one security association
- 9 over the secure network connection between the first security server and the mobile client.
- 1 23. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the first network element is a mobile client, and
- 2 the second and third network elements are security servers.

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- 1 24. (New) The first security server of claim 22, wherein information relating to the at least
- 2 one security association is duplicated at the first and second security servers.
- 1 25. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein sharing the at least one security association
- 2 comprises sharing an IPsec security association among the plurality of security gateways.